



# THE GRANGE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 38

MAY 1987

## A Word From Our Chairman

The Annual General Meeting was held in the Music Room on Monday, May 4th. 50 volunteers attended and the guests were The Director, Mr. Withrow; the Chief of Administration, Norman Walford; the Manager of Volunteer Activity, Joyce Davenall Turner; Valliere Cronyn, the Chairman of The Grange Committee of the Board of the AGO; Lee Jolliffe, our Curatorial Adviser; Ann Mills, President, Volunteer Committee, AGO; Sandra Matthews, past Chairman, Grange Volunteer Committee.

Thirteen interesting reports were made, and Ann Mills seconded them.

Norman Walford gave a short talk on Stage III and how it will affect The Grange. He was thanked by Alice Gray.

After the meeting was adjourned, wine and refreshments were served.

The Grange Executive Committee has been increased by two. Anne Mills is the Chairman of the Slide Library Committee, and Mary Aziz is the Chairman of Special Events.

There are 5,000 slides in the library and this year 144 new slides have been accessioned, which involves ordering, mounting and cataloguing two of each slide - one for our primary collection, and one for circulation.

Anne and her assistant, Isabel Woollard have, for example, assisted in the luncheon slide talks, the compilation of the new booklet on The Grange, and provided slides of Grange furniture for Elizabeth Ingolfsrud's talk, which was part of the volunteer enrichment program.

Special Programs include Celebration, Heritage Week and March Break. Ulla Jorgensen will be co-Chairman with Mary Aziz for Celebration.

The house will be open on Mondays from Victoria Day, May 18, until Labour Day. The front door will be open for that period, and there will be a Security Officer by the door.

The Grange Annual Autumn Lecture will be in The Jackman Hall on Sunday, September 27, at 3:00 pm. The speaker will be Margaret Visser, the broadcaster and author of "Much Depends on Dinner". Her title will be "The History and Mythology of the Bed". The tickets are \$10 each - come, and bring a friend.





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Plans are underway for the autumn enrichment and training sessions, and also for the spring program for 1988.

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## DATES TO PUT IN YOUR ENGAGEMENT BOOK

- Monday, June 8, 1987, 6:30 pm.  
Bill Emigh will tour the garden followed by a slide talk by Pleasance Crawford on ornamentation of a garden in the era of Goldwin Smith.
- Saturday, June 20, 10:30 am.  
The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario is sponsoring a free walking tour of South Riverdale and the Don Jail.  
Meet at The Riverdale Library (Broadview and Gerrard).
- Monday, August 3, Simcoe Day.  
St. James's Park. Entertainment, Events, Children's Games, Historical Walks. Bring a picnic and spend the day.  
Sponsored by The Toronto Historical Board.
- Sunday, September 27, 3:00 pm.  
The Grange Annual Lecture in Jackman Hall (see details on previous page).
- October, 1987 is the 150th anniversary of the Mackenzie Rebellion. The Ontario Historical Society will be running workshops and seminars. All the information will be put on the notice board.

If you have a large amount of letters, cards, invitations, etc. to post - why not buy your stamps at Toronto's First Post Office? It is both a museum and a sub-post office.

## The Oxford Experience

The Oxford Experience was just that. We had been well briefed and eagerly looked forward to daffodils and shining spires. Now we can happily recall wonderful days in the company of extremely knowledgeable lecturers, guides and guest speakers. Delightful excursions enabled us to soak up as much of all the arts as one possibly could. Thanks to our 2 very able Art Gallery leaders who had worked diligently for so long, each day held its own special reward.

Every college - old and new - had a certain appeal. Who will ever forget the splendour of each picture gallery, Christ Church in particular, as well as Sunday service in their Cathedral with its vaulted ceilings. The Master paintings everywhere held us in awe as did the furnishings and gardens. Handel's "Messiah" in the Sheldonian Theatre; The Bodleian Library - Blenheim Palace; Rhodes House; The Verney home of Florence Nightingale; the Ashmolean Museum and Wallace Collection with unbelievable treasures held us spellbound.

The Rothschild French Chateau, Waddesdon Manor, was a change of pace. We visited Stratford, saw Julius Caesar by the Royal Shakespearean Company; had lectures on opera houses and poetry reading, etc. Special receptions awaited us everywhere, highlighted by a visit to the High Commissioner's home in London where we were graciously welcomed.

Fellow travellers had varied interests and these were well met. The motto of Corpus Christi College is "Honi-Soit-Qui-Mal-Y-Pense" which means "Dishonour to him who Thinks Evil". With Spring in all its glory, who





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could possibly do so? I'm sure each Grange representative would agree - "Well done - it was a pleasure"!

Shirley Orr

## Education News

The Grange is taking part in an interesting program, organized by the Toronto Urban Studies Centre. On Thursdays, Grade 7 and 8 classes from Toronto schools tour The Grange as part of a program called "Lady Bountiful". The tour is to show them the difference between the lives of residents of the house and their servants and the docents are asked to role play, to make the difference seem more real. Role playing is extremely difficult and we sometimes slip up but the students seem to enjoy the idea very much. The students have already spent the morning at the Toronto Board of Education Archives, discussing museums and the concept behind the tour, before they come to The Grange. Other historic sites taking part in programs on other days are Enoch Turner School House, Redpath Sugar Museum, Fort Rouille, and the Marine Museum, and the Museum of the History of Medicine. If the program is a success, it may be repeated next year.

Lynne Murphy.  
920-8798

## Notes from the Library

In the special Garden Supplement contained in the Feb-Mar 1987 issue of Century Home, there is an article by Kathryn McHolm called "Grandmother's Garden". It is beautifully illustrated and includes instructions on

how you, too, can create a Grandmother's Garden.

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In the same supplement Helen Skinner discusses shady gardens in "Shadows of Colour". In this article (p.9) there is a reference to the growing of azaleas in the greenhouse at The Grange.

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The library has acquired a copy of Mayors of Toronto, v.1, 1834-1899, by Victor Loring Russell, (Erin, Ontario, Boston Mills, Press, 1982). See pages 40-43 for chapter on William Henry Boulton, Mayor of Toronto, 1845-1847 and 1858.

Mary Ash

The AGO has hired a full-time Tourism Development Officer. Recently, I met with him and he assured me that The Grange is being promoted at all the travel and trade shows in Canada and in the United States.

We are affiliated with the Metropolitan Toronto Convention & Visitors Association and they have given us coverage in one of their publications.

I have attended several meetings sponsored by the Committee for the Coordination of Toronto Museum Activities. The last one was held in October at Gibson House. There is a great exchange of ideas at these meetings when we all give our reports.

Chairmen requiring publicity can provide material to me and leave it at the office with Peggy.

Bea Janikun, Publicity.

The Grange needs volunteer help during the summer months - particularly weekends and Mondays.





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## GIBSON HOUSE WORKSHOP: AN INTRODUCTION TO INTERPRETING HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Gibson House is proud to be a very good source of history; especially community history. I was interested in the house as well as the background of David Gibson. The Gibson House staff made the house come alive, by their impersonation of people who once lived there or worked for Mr. Gibson.

The main topics discussed by Dorothy Duncan were "Why restore historic buildings as museums" and "Interpreting the Past". Restoring buildings such as Gibson House and The Grange gives people an awareness and appreciation of Ontario's heritage; to know more about our ancestry and to have a deeper understanding of the people who lived in that period.

Both workshop leaders, Dorothy Duncan and Sid Calzavara, were excellent and they did not 'load you up' with printed material but talked about, and involved all the workshop visitors in, discussions and problem-solving.

Problem-solving was interesting as well as timely; especially the problem of people in wheel-chairs. They would like to see the museum as much as anyone else but unfortunately there is no access to upper rooms. As discussed, there should be outreach programs for visitors with special needs - so that they do not feel left out.

As a guide or interpreter, one should take time with each and every visitor and be able to communicate with all ages.

The Gibson House workshop also stressed the advantage of having a good attitude and making each and every visitor want to return.

This is, I believe, most important as we the interpreter/guides, are the main link with the historical house or museum - in other words "the public relation" that the visitor remembers.

Jill Hollands.

## Hot off the Press Report on the Success of a TV Film on The Grange

1. A young lady from Toronto, visiting The Grange today for the first time said her interest had been aroused by the film she saw on TV, about 2-3 years ago, on the restoration of The Grange. In fact, that film impressed her so much that it started her on the studies she is currently pursuing at the University on the Restoration of Historic Sites.
2. A mother and daughter from North Bay, today, were most enthusiastic about their visit to the house. They had had their interest kindled by a video they saw on their educational TV channel about The Grange, last Christmas!

Ruth Vanderlip.

Welcome back to Ruth Keene who has enjoyed a well deserved month's holiday in Australia. Returning with Ruth was Claire Miller, who had been visiting her Australian family for three months. The Kettledrum Committee is particularly happy to see Claire again.

Peggy Eades has become a grandmother again. Her second granddaughter was born on May 2nd.





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## The Grange Volunteer Committee Executive

1987 - 1988

<u>CHAIRMAN</u>	Jane Aitken (Mrs.)
<u>COSTUMES</u>	Jean Gray (Mrs. V.P.)
<u>EDUCATION</u>	Lynne Murphy (Mrs. W.D.)
<u>ENRICHMENT</u>	Anne Morison (Mrs. J.F.)
<u>FINANCE</u>	Marjorie Thomson (Mrs. P.G.)
<u>FLOWERS</u>	Emmy Lind (Mrs. R. Burns)
<u>HOUSEKEEPING</u>	Virginia Smith (Mrs. L.V.)
<u>KETTLEDRUM</u>	Rohaise Nicholls (Mrs. W.)
<u>LIBRARY</u>	Isabel Woollard (Miss)
<u>PLACEMENT</u>	Anne Hope-Brown (Mrs. A.)
<u>PROGRAM</u>	Audrey Walker (Mrs. R.)
<u>PUBLICITY</u>	Beatrice Janikun (Mrs. S.L.)
<u>PUBLICATIONS &amp; RESEARCH</u>	Ann O'Brian (Mrs. J.A.)
<u>SLIDE LIBRARY</u>	Anne Mills (Mrs. T.S.)
<u>SPECIAL EVENTS</u>	Mary Aziz (Mrs. A.)

